

Pharmacy Program website at <https://mmcp.dhmh.maryland.gov/pap/SitePages/Public%20Announcement%20and%20Procedures%20Public%20Testimony.aspx>.

**Contact:** Shawn Singh (410) 767-6896  
[17-04-12]

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE/OFFICE OF HEALTH SERVICES

**Subject:** Public Notice for Maryland Medicaid Pharmacy Program's Changes to Reimbursement Methodology

**Add'l. Info:** The Covered Outpatient Drugs final rule with comment (CMS-2345-FC) published on February 1, 2016, addressed key areas of Medicaid drug reimbursement required by the Affordable Care Act. This final rule creates a reimbursement system for Medicaid programs and pharmacies that more accurately reflects drug cost and the cost of dispensing. The final rule is designed to ensure pharmacy reimbursement aligns with the acquisition cost of drugs and States pay an appropriate professional dispensing fee. The final rule establishes Actual Acquisition Cost (AAC) as the basis by which States should determine their ingredient cost reimbursement so payments are based on a more accurate estimate of the prices available in the marketplace, while still ensuring sufficient beneficiary access. Furthermore, the rule implements the use of the term "professional dispensing fee" to ensure the dispensing fee paid to pharmacies reflects the cost of the pharmacist's professional services and cost to dispense the drug product to a Medicaid beneficiary.

State Medicaid programs must comply with the requirements of this rule by submitting a State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services by June 30, 2017, to be effective no later than April 1, 2017. Therefore, all State Medicaid agencies must convert to an acquisition cost based reimbursement methodology.

As required by the final rule, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is proposing to change the pharmacy provider reimbursement methodology from an Estimated Acquisition Cost (EAC) to an AAC. The proposal also includes an increase in the professional dispensing fee from \$2.56 (for brand products not on the preferred drug list) and \$3.51 (for generic and preferred brand products) to \$10.49 (\$11.49 for institutional or long-term care facility pharmacies, and \$12.12 for 340B covered

entities and Federally Qualified Health Centers owned pharmacies).

The projected fiscal impact is zero dollars. The proposed effective date is April 1, 2017.

For a more detailed summary of changes, please see the documents posted on the MMPP webpage: <https://mmcp.dhmh.maryland.gov/pap/docs/Presentation%20Slides%20from%20January%202017%20Pharmacy%20Stakeholders%20Meeting.pptx>

Written comments may be sent to Deborah Washington, Maryland Medicaid Pharmacy Program, DHMH, 201 W. Preston St., Rm. 408, Baltimore, MD 21201, or emailed to [dhmh.mmpp@maryland.gov](mailto:dhmh.mmpp@maryland.gov). Comments will be accepted through March 3, 2017.

**Contact:** Deborah Washington (410) 767-1455

[17-04-13]

#### MARYLAND INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION

**Subject:** Public Meeting

**Date and Time:** March 6, 2017, 1 — 4 p.m.

**Place:** Maryland Dept. of Agriculture, 50 Harry S. Truman Pkwy., Rms. 112 and 114, Annapolis, MD

**Add'l. Info:** The Maryland Insurance Administration will conduct a public meeting to advise interested parties of potential policy changes regarding consumer protections for long-term care insurance. If you plan on attending, please RSVP to Nancy Muehlberger. Interested parties are also encouraged to submit written comments. Written comments and RSVPs should be sent to Nancy Muehlberger by March 1, 2017, either by email to [longtermcare.mia@maryland.gov](mailto:longtermcare.mia@maryland.gov) or by mail to 200 St. Paul Place, Suite 2700, Baltimore, MD 21202 or by fax to 410-468-2038.

Any questions regarding this matter should be directed to Nancy Muehlberger by March 1, 2017, by phone to 410-468-2050, or by email to [nancy.muehlberger@maryland.gov](mailto:nancy.muehlberger@maryland.gov). For more information on the hearing please see the following link:

<http://insurance.maryland.gov/Consumer/Pages/Long-Term-Care-Hearing-March-6-2017.aspx>

**Contact:** Nancy Muehlberger (410) 468-2050

[17-04-18]

#### MARYLAND INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION

**Subject:** Public Meeting

**Date and Time:** May 8, 2017, 10 a.m.

**Place:** 200 St. Paul Pl., 24th Fl. Hearing Rm., Baltimore, MD

**Add'l. Info:** Insurance Commissioner Al Redmer, Jr. will hold a meeting on Monday, May 8, 2017, at 10 a.m., at 200 St. Paul Place, 24th Floor Hearing Room, Baltimore, MD 21202, to review what the Maryland Insurance Administration has done and will continue to do in preparation for the 2017 hurricane season. Commissioner Redmer also will discuss how property and casualty insurers can help the Maryland Insurance Administration promptly and efficiently assist Maryland consumers.

If you plan to attend this meeting, please RSVP to [joy.hatchette@maryland.gov](mailto:joy.hatchette@maryland.gov). If you have any questions, you may also contact Joy Hatchette at the same email address or at 410-468-2029.

You can also call-in to the meeting by dialing 1-866-247-6034. The passcode is 1573490062.

**Contact:** Joy Hatchette (410) 468-2029

[17-04-08]

#### MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION

**Subject:** Receipt of Application

**Add'l. Info:** On February 3, 2017, the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) received two Certificate of Need applications submitted by:

Columbia Surgical Institute — (Howard Co.) — Matter No. 17-13-2391; Conversion of an existing procedure room to an operating room for a total of 2 operating rooms and 2 procedure rooms at the facility; Proposed Cost: \$192,192.

Riva Road Surgical Center — (Anne Arundel Co.) — Matter No. 17-02-2392; Conversion of an existing procedure room to an operating room for a total of 2 operating rooms and 1 procedure room at the facility; Proposed Cost: \$741,499.

The MHCC shall review the application under Health-General Article, §19-101 et seq. and COMAR 10.24.01.

Any affected person may make a written request to the Commission to receive copies of relevant notices concerning the applications. All further notices of proceedings on the applications will be sent only to affected persons who have registered as interested parties.

Please refer to the Matter No. listed above in any correspondence on the applications. A copy of the application are available, for review, in the office of the MHCC, during regular business hours by